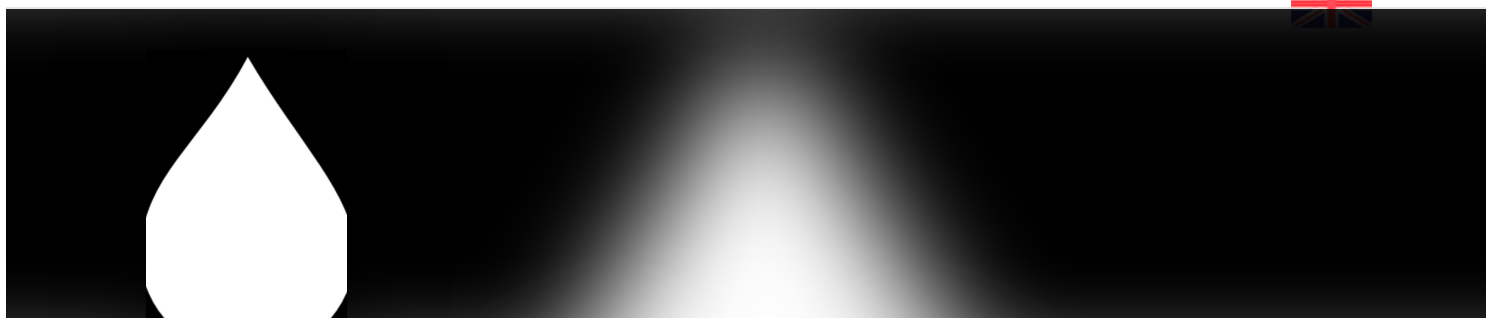




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The Watermark



👁 160 ✓ 2 ★ 18

Chapter 1 by Ryan DeAngelis

I never thought anything of it when I got it. It was just a thing that I had now. I got it a few days ago. I woke up with this weird pain on the right side of my neck. I went to the bathroom to see what it was, and couldn't believe what I was seeing. It was a teardrop imprint, colored in a dark brown, imprinted onto my skin. Even though the shape was too precise to be accidental, I still tried to wipe it off with water. No use. It was still there, and still hurt. Except, when I raised my head, I noticed something else. It had begun to glow in a way I can only describe as like a nightlight. I had no idea what to do, so I panicked until finally calming myself down and just going to sleep, hoping that this was a... hallucination or something.

The next day, I immediately went to the bathroom again to see what had happened. It was still there, but thankfully had stopped the weird glowing had stopped. I went back to my room to get dressed, covering my neck with a scarf as to try and not raise suspicion. Thankfully it didn't, but this was just the beginning of the weirdness. Throughout the past few days, I noticed weird things beginning to happen. For instance, I somehow spilled my drinks a lot more, even when I was being really careful. I couldn't explain why these things were happening, until now.

My house has a pool out back, and I decided to try taking a swim. I got into my bathing suit, grabbed my towel, and went out. I stepped into the water, and I felt my finger into the water to test its temperature, but I couldn't feel the water slipped around my finger, almost as if I had pushed a ball into it. Okay, I realized then why I had this weird marking.

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Chapter 2 by Phantim



I was the daughter of Poseidon. I know it sounds crazy! I read the Percy Jackson books, at first I thought they were fake. But now I know they are true! No one believes me though. I was yelling at the ocean for three hours today, but my dad show up, or even send some mermaids... I do kinda wonder why it's a tear drops instead of Poseidon's trident like in the book. I really wish someone would help me figure this out. Water cant get near me, so I haven't taken a bath or shower in almost a week. The smell is getting pretty bad. Internet searches aren't helping either. I feel like I am going crazy...

Chapter 3 by River Mermaid



I haven't gone to school in almost a week, and the same goes for my after-school job. I read this one thing on the internet that people who can't touch water cover themselves in this weird flour, then wipe it off dry to absorb odors. I ordered a bag of this flour on Amazon, since I didn't want to go out in public (yeah this thing is putting a REAL damper on my social life too). The box arrived in a few days, so I decided to open it right away. After I cut off to top tabs of the box, I know something is up. When I look through the translucent packing material, I don't see a bag of flour; I see a big leather book!

"That's strange, the box had my address on it.", I thought.

Then, I realized it might be a gift. My parents were off vacationing in the Alps, and would often mail me souvenirs. I lifted the book out of its packaging and read the cover.

"Nereids and Nymphs: How to Deal with Your Marine Transformation"

If I wasn't a little cautious about the title, what happened next sure threw me off. A design was carved in the leather of the book that was exactly alike to the teardrop design on my neck. The design on my neck started glowing like crazy! I reread the title and something inside me clicked.

"Nereid- MOM"

Write a draft for chapter 4 of 8

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